BULLETIN OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

INFORMATION BULLETIN PUBLISHED BY THE SECRETARIAT OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

No. 5 (2nd. Year) MARCH 1, 1955

32.26.28

A Pledge for Peace

In a number of countries the campaign against the preparations for atomic war is already in full swing. The response of public opinion to the Appeal of the World Council of Peace shows that the Appeal has come at the right time and that it meets a universally felt need.

Further, these first experiences confirm the correctness of the World Council's decision to conduct the action against the preparation of atomic war in the form of a signature campaign.

'Why a signature campaign?', people may ask.

Because the deliberate and considered act of putting one's signature to a text which is both clear and explicit is the active and concrete expression of one's will. Because the signature means that one has understood. Because it is a political undertaking, a contract which begins with the physical act of writing one's name and is fulfilled in work to get others to sign and to see the common will realised. Because a great number of signatures in opposition to the forces of destruction necessarily leads political forces and organisations of all kinds to take a stand, for they cannot run the risk of becoming isolated from the hundreds of millions of men and women who, by the pledge they have given, are defending their own and their children's lives, and the lives of their fellow men.

Because, in short, the fixed intention of certain governments to hurl the world into atomic war can be blocked by a powerful barrier: the firmly expressed will of all the peoples.

These are a few of the reasons for the specific form of our campaign.

Clearly, to carry it through successfully imposes great tasks on every Peace Committee and a heavy responsibility on every member of the Peace Movement. For this must be no mere mechanical collection of signatures. If each signature is to be a solemn contract pledging the writer to win his neighbour to sign too and make their common will prevail, it will be necessary to explain, to persuade, to convince on a gigantic scale. And if the number of signatures is to compel the retreat of those who do not hesitate to prepare for a war waged with hydrogen bombs, every man and woman must be given the possibility of playing a direct and conscious part in this decisive struggle.

This implies that the Peace Movement must bring into operation every means at its disposal. It will be necessary to seek out each man and woman at home or at their place of work, in office or factory, in the workshops and in the fields. It will also be necessary to compile canvassing lists and to do detailed organisational work. For this the defenders of peace must use the means at their disposal, together with those they acquire in their daily struggle and through the exchange of experiences; the means, too, at the disposal of the big national and international organisations which are working for peace in their own particular fields; and lastly the new means that will arise in the course of the campaign as the latter grows through the feeling of human solidarity aroused by a threat that is common to all countries.

Every defender of peace is animated by the profound conviction that he can be victorious over the forces of negation and destruction. He knows that public opinion has already shown itself strong enough to stay the hand of those who menacingly brandish the atomic bomb and to bring to the negotiating table governments that refused to go of their own accord, and that it can also prove itself strong enough to impose the destruction of atomic weapons and the stopping of their manufacture. That is the meaning of the Appeal and of the campaign launched by the World Council. By understanding it aright, hundreds of millions of men and women in every part of the world can transform it into a material force powerful enough to win victory for aims which are those of reason and commonsense.

IN THIS ISSUE

Page

- Great organisations support the Vienna Appeal. — A message from Dean Chandler.. 2
- The world signature campaign against the preparations for atomic war is launched: Austria, China, Finland, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Mongolia, Poland, Sweden and Switzerland 3, 4 & 5
- The peoples speak out against German rearmament: The Warsaw meeting. — The German Manifesto ..... 6 & 7
- Preparing the World Assembly: information on the preparations in Brazil, China, France, Poland and South Africa. — Statement by Pandit Sunderlal. — An interview with Professor Iversen ..... 8 & 9
- Soviet public opinion welcomes the Bureau's Appeal. — Asian Lawyers' Conference..... 10
- The peoples support the Conference of Asian Countries and the Afro-Asian Conference.... 11
- Second Lebanese Peace Congress. — 14,000 miles across Australia for peace..... 12
- Argentine: National Conference draws up plans for the campaign against atomic weapons. — The work of the Cuban Peace Movement. — The agenda of the Mexican National Assembly for Peace and Security 13
- The cultural anniversaries for 1955. — Americans speak out for cultural exchanges. — An appeal by the Brazilian film director Alberto Cavalcanti... 14
- A people's cultural movement in Japan: 'The Songs of Japan' 15
- Great Britain: How 'National Deputations Day' was organised. — 'Shadows Over Austria', a documentary film made by the Austrian Peace Council .. 16

A message from Dean Chandler

It is heartening news to learn that Protestant Church leaders throughout Germany have thrown themselves into a campaign against the rearmament of Western Germany. May God bless their endeavours and keep them staunch in their struggle for the reunification of Germany. This fully accords with enlightened Christian public opinion throughout the world. The base endeavours of power-drunken politicians must be defeated if a third World War is to be averted. As Germany has led the world into two wars already, may it this time be an instrument of Divine justice, and peace-loving brotherly affection. May it strengthen the will to peace, by refusing to become part of an aggressive Western bloc.

I appeal to my brethren of the German Evangelical Church to stand together in this crucial hour, and so frustrate the evil intentions of those who delight in war.

The Very Rev.
Charles W. Chandler
Dean of Waikato
New Zealand

International Organisations support the Vienna appeal

The World Federation of Trade Unions

The Secretariat of the World Federation of Trade Unions has published the following statement:

'The World Federation of Trade Unions wholeheartedly supports the decisions taken by the Bureau of the World Council of Peace at its last meeting in Vienna, and the document it adopted condemning those who are pressing for an atomic war.

'In particular the World Federation of Trade Unions gives its full support to the appeal against preparations for an atomic war . . .

'The World Federation of Trade Unions is convinced that the workers of the whole world, whether or not they belong to an organisation affiliated to the W.F.T.U., will throw their full weight behind this campaign against preparations for an atomic war and sign this appeal in their millions.

'It calls on them to organise, in the most varied forms, the collection of signatures in all enterprises and to make every effort in support of this appeal.

'It also urges them, and above all the workers and trade unions of all European countries, to take the lead in the struggle against the Paris agreements which are aimed at making German militarism touch off an atomic war.

'The World Federation of Trade Unions reminds all trade unionists, all workers that every step towards war is always accompanied by measures to lower the living standards of the working people and whittle away their trade union rights and democratic freedoms.

'The fight of the workers for better living and working conditions and their struggle for peace, collective security and the lessening of international tension, and against preparations for a new war and the militarisation of the economy are indivisible.

'In the face of the grave and acute dangers threatening the world and the policy which means for the people poverty and an atomic war which could wipe out entire countries, the W.F.T.U. is convinced that all workers, whatever their nationality, trade union affiliation, political opinion or religious belief, will strengthen their unity and fight with determination. In this way they will make a decisive contribution to the action of the people for peace, freedom and a better life.'

Women's International Democratic Federation

At its meeting in Geneva from February 9 to 13, the Council of the Women's International Democratic Federation adopted the following statement:

'The Council of the Women's International Democratic Federation is aware of the immediate danger created by the dispositions that certain governments have taken to prepare and regularise the unleashing of atomic war anywhere in the world.

'It is the duty of every woman to make every effort to protect her home and children and to ensure the happiness of the rising generation.

'Only a powerful protest movement by the peoples can avert this grave threat and put a stop to the plans of those who want to unleash atomic war.

'For this reason the Women's International Democratic Federation gives its full support to the resolutions adopted by the Bureau of the World Council of Peace on January 19 in the course of its meeting in Vienna, and calls on women to unite and strengthen the peoples' movement of opposition by signing and getting others to sign the powerful Appeal against the preparations for atomic war.'

World Federation of Democratic Youth

The Secretariat of the World Federation of Democratic Youth has published a statement which says in part:

'The World Federation of Democratic Youth declares, on behalf of its 95 million members, that it approves the resolutions of the World Council of Peace on the struggle against the remilitarisation of West Germany and on the organisation of a vast campaign against the preparations for atomic war.'

The Executive Committee of the World Federation of Democratic Youth will meet in Berlin from February 25 to 28 to discuss the tasks of youth organisations in the struggle against the danger of an atomic war.

International Federation of Resistance Fighters

The Bureau of the International Federation of Resistance Fighters held a session in Warsaw from January 23 to 25 in which representatives from many European countries took part, including Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, the German Democratic Republic, Poland and the Soviet Union.

In its resolution, the Bureau 'welcomes the decision of the World Council of Peace to launch a signature campaign demanding the banning and destruction of atomic weapons. The Bureau considers that it is urgently necessary to invite member organisations to give all possible support to this campaign, while continuing with the utmost vigour their opposition to the London and Paris Agreements for the remilitarisation of West Germany. To this end they should make a pressing appeal to the resistance fighters and deportees of their country.'

At the end of the session the Bureau members present signed the World Council's Appeal against the preparations for atomic war.

A Statement by the International Organisation of Journalists

The Secretariat of the International Organisation of Journalists has published an appeal asking all journalists to struggle against the danger of the use of atomic and hydrogen bombs. The appeal states in part:

'At this time, journalists bear a heavy responsibility both to the peoples of the world and to their own consciences. Every journalist who does not want war owes it to himself to tell public opinion about the growing danger, sincerely and truthfully.

'The International Organisation of Journalists calls on all representatives of the press to speak out at this decisive hour in our history against the unleashing of a new war, and against the use of atomic and hydrogen weapons. This is vital for the sake of all mankind.'

World Signature Campaign against the Preparations for Atomic War is Launched

China

A joint extended meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and the Presiding Committee of the Chinese People's Committee for World Peace was held in Peking on February 12.

The meeting unanimously decided to open the signature-collecting campaign for the Vienna Appeal. A special committee was elected to organise the collection of signatures; it has 65 members headed by Dr. Kuo Mo-jo. The participants in the meeting were the first to sign the Vienna Appeal.

Italy

Poster issued by the Rome Provincial Peace Committee.

The Italian Peace Movement launched the signature campaign for the Vienna Appeal at a special assembly in Rome on February 3.

Eminent public figures took part in the meeting. They included the Italian members of the World Council of Peace, the members of the National Peace Committee and authoritative representatives of the great parties and organisations which support the Peace Movement, such as: Mr. Di Vittorio, General Secretary of the Italian Confederation of Labour, President of the World Federation of Trade Unions; Mr. Santi, secretary of the Italian Confederation of Labour; Mrs. Rossi, Mrs. Leonilde Jotti and Mrs. Rosetta Longo, respectively President and Secretaries of the Union of Italian Women; Mr. Roveda, General Secretary of the Engineers' Trade Union Federation; Mr. Boldrini, President of the National Association of Italian Partisans; the President of the Association of Victims of Fascism, Internees and Deportees, and others.

There were also a number of M.P.s and senators present, including the vice-president of the Senate, Mr. Mole; university professors including Professor Cortini of Rome University and Professor Pancini of Genoa University, both physicists; famous doctors like Professor Morellini; representatives of regional and provincial councils such as Mr. Varvaro of the Sicilian Assembly and Mr. Pennisi, a monarchist of the Rome provincial council; also artists, writers, journalists and soldiers such as General Carboni ...

Twenty-four hours after this assembly, the peace committee of the village of Alquanegra sul Chiese in the province of Mantua, which has only a few thousand inhabitants, sent in the first 500 signatures.

On February 6, more signatures, which had been collected in peace notebooks, were handed to Mr. Targetti, Vice-Chairman of the Italian Lower House on the occasion of a meeting organised in Leghorn by the Peace Committee.

At the same time the campaign against the London and Paris Agreements is extending its scope. Thousands of deputations are going to see the senators and political figures, and thousands of people are taking part in all the activities of the Peace Movement directed against German rearmament: petitions, marches, the commemoration of episodes in the war of liberation, and so on.

India

In the February 2 number of its bulletin, the All India Peace Council published a plan of work for the launching of the campaign against atomic weapons proposed by its Secretariat. The plan includes the following points:

1) To publicise the All India Peace Council Appeal supporting the decisions of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace. The text of this appeal calling for the campaign will be translated into the various Indian languages, published in the local press and used as a handbill for the campaign.

2) All committees should translate the signature appeal at once into their local languages and print or cyclostyle signature forms, without waiting for their Provincial Committees to prepare copies.

3) At all the meetings already planned for the *Quit Taiwan Day* the resolutions should highlight the threats being used by U.S. spokesmen to unleash an atomic war against China.

During the preparations for the meetings and during the meetings themselves, signatures to the appeal should be collected in as large numbers as possible.

4) All mass organisations must be approached at all levels to issue statements, circulars and directives calling for mass collection of signatures.

5) Immediately during and after the *Quit Taiwan* campaign, important personalities — M.P.s, members of Legislative Assemblies, members of Municipal Committees and District Boards, leaders and office-bearers of mass organisations, leading figures in the educational, legal, cultural, medical and other fields — should be approached and their signatures obtained.

All Peace Committees should send the names of these first signatories to the All India Peace Council by February 20, in order to enable the preparation of a consolidated list for use all over the country.

6) As a culmination of this preparatory work and in order to start the intensive collection of signatures, the Secretariat of the All India Peace Council has decided to call for the observance of Sunday, March 6 as STOP PREPARATIONS FOR ATOMIC WAR DAY.

On this day, the Appeal must be popularised widely through meetings, demonstrations, etc.

Switzerland

The Peace Committee of the Canton of Vaud decided at a special meeting to open the signature campaign for the Vienna Appeal immediately. In a statement the Committee says:

'Signing the Appeal of the World Council of Peace against the preparations for atomic war means helping to safeguard the very existence of our country, our people and our children, without supporting any particular organisation or movement ...'

The Committee meeting was very successful. It was attended by representatives of many organisations, particularly the trade unions, and by a number of individuals in the capacity of observers. The Peace Committees of Montreux, Monge, Nyon, Vevey and Yverdon sent delegates. The campaign has also been launched in the cantons of Geneva and Lausanne.

Further, the workers of the Similer factory at Carouge endorsed the Vienna Appeal at a general meeting.

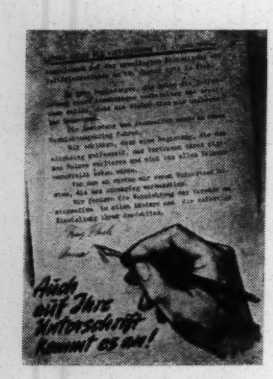
It should also be noted that the parliaments of the cantons of Vaud, Geneva and Neuchatel have unanimously passed resolutions demanding the banning of atomic weapons.

On this point, the Swiss Federal Council stated on February 4 that it is 'aware of the danger to the peoples involved in the prospect of repeated atomic explosions. It is also convinced that a general limitation of armaments would serve the cause of peace'.

Austria

At an extended meeting on January 29 at which many public figures, representatives of political parties and trade union leaders from all over Austria were present, the Austrian Peace Council opened the signature campaign for the Vienna Appeal.

For the campaign the Austrian Council has issued signature forms of three different kinds. One of these is for individual signature; another is in the form of little card with the text of the Vienna Appeal and the words 'You have signed the Vienna Appeal' on one side and a photograph of a young mother playing with her child with the caption 'May it always be so' on the other. The card is given to every person who signs the Appeal. In addition, a poster in different sizes is already on the hoardings all over Austria, and a pamphlet answering twenty of the arguments most frequently met with by collectors has been published. A special, richly illustrated number of the *Österreichische Friedenszeitung*, organ of the Austrian Peace Council, has been published for the launching of the signature campaign. The number printed was very much higher than usual.



A poster published by the Austrian Peace Council

It should be pointed out that the collection of signatures began spontaneously all over Austria immediately after the publication of the Appeal of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace. Without waiting for signature forms to be printed, active peace workers cut out the Appeal as printed in the newspapers, stuck it on a sheet of paper and asked their neighbours and workmates to sign. Every day the Austrian Peace Council is receiving signature forms of this type bearing many signatures. Mrs. Gisela Draskovic, a Viennese old age pensioner, collected 41 signatures in this way and Mrs. Augustinovic, also of Vienna, collected 128 in two days. Mrs. Gramsamer of Salzburg collected 25 signatures in a tiny village in one hour and a half. Many of those who signed asked for signature forms.

The card given to everyone who signs the Appeal.

In many factories, too, the campaign started as soon as the Appeal was published. During the first day 350 signatures were collected in the Leobersdorf engineering factory, 150 in the Traiskirchen wax-cloth factory and 350 in the Floridsdorf locomotive works. In the Siemens-Schuckert factory 600 out of 900 workers have already signed.

The Austrian Peace Council has announced that by February 19th 101,187 signatures had been collected in Austria.

Hungary

On the day following the extended meeting of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace, the Hungarian Peace Council issued an appeal to all defenders of peace in Hungary. It says:

'The Appeal of the World Council of Peace asks all sincere people throughout the world to oppose those who are preparing for an atomic war . . .

'Go from house to house, collect signatures all over the country!'

The workers, peasants, intellectuals and young people have begun to collect signatures enthusiastically. A few examples will show how successfully the campaign has begun. In the Hoves combine 10,000 signatures were collected in two days, in the Matra-Videk factory 1,200 workers and office staff signed the Appeal and 50,000 signatures were collected by several hundred people in the Borsod combine in the first two days of the campaign.

Along with the new world campaign the Hungarian people are continuing their struggle against German rearmament. Thus 40,000 signatures against the remilitarisation of Germany were collected at Borsod and 4,000 peace meetings were held in Baranya district during the month of January.

The National Peace Committees of Rumania and Albania held special sessions at which the Appeal of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace was warmly approved. The signature-collecting campaign began immediately in these two countries.

At a plenary session of the Czechoslovak Peace Committee it was decided to launch the campaign on February 28 at a series of district conferences.

Indonesia

The Indonesian Peace Committee has published a statement emphasising that atomic war would have disastrous consequences for the whole of mankind.

'We call on the whole Indonesian people', the statement says, 'to sign the Appeal against the preparations for atomic war issued by the Bureau of the World Council of Peace.'

Mexico

The launching of the signature campaign in Mexico was marked by a meeting of the National Peace Council on January 26. The collection of signatures began immediately.

The Appeal has been communicated to the press and to many public figures and organisations with a request for their support.

Finland

The Finnish Peace Committee has met in Helsinki, approved the decisions of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace and opened the signature campaign in Finland. Those who took part in the meeting were the first to sign.

Mongolia

At a meeting of the Mongolian Peace Committee Mr. Chirendyb, its Chairman, gave a report on the international situation and the peoples' struggle for peace. It was decided to begin the collection of signatures to the Vienna Appeal immediately and the members of the Committee were the first to sign.

Poland

A joint session of the Presiding Committee of the Committee of the National Front and the National Peace Committee was held in Warsaw on January 31. It was attended by important public figures, workers, peasants, intellectuals and Catholic dignitaries.

The participants made a unanimous call to the Polish people to sign the Vienna Appeal against the preparations for atomic war.

As the signature campaign gets under way throughout the country many organisations are giving their support to the aims enunciated in the Appeal. For example, the Association of physicists and physics institutes of Warsaw University recently held a General Assembly at which they adopted a resolution supporting the Vienna Appeal and asking all physicists throughout the world to go on record in favour of banning the manufacture of atomic weapons and destroying existing stocks.

The plenary session of the Biochemists' Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences has also passed a resolution approving the decisions of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace.

It should be noted that the Czechoslovak and Bulgarian academies of sciences have also gone on record to this effect.

Korea

Mr. Han Sul Ya, President of the Korean Peace Committee, has stated that 'the determination of millions of men and women who desire peace and progress finds further confirmation in the recent decisions of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace.

'Those who want war', he said, 'wish to hurl the whole world into an atomic war. But we know from past experience that the combined efforts of millions of men and women can foil the intrigues of the enemies of peace, just as the United States' plans to use the atomic bomb in Korea were checked. There is no doubt that the peace forces, which have grown enormously in strength in these last years, will bring the new plans for aggression to naught."

32.26.30

Japan

A special session of the Japanese Peace Committee was held in Tokyo on January 14 and 15. About two hundred delegates and guests from all the prefectures of Japan attended this meeting.

The agenda was as follows:

1) Report on the international situation and the tasks of the Japanese Peace Movement.

2) The present state of the Japanese Peace Movement.

3) Important campaigns: the Conference of Asian Countries, the World Assembly for Peace and the World Conference for the Banning of the A and H bombs.

In his report on the point on the agenda, Mr. Hirano, General Secretary of the Japanese Peace Committee, said:

'Since the cease-fires in Korea and Indo-China the forces for peace have made great progress against which the protagonists of the "policy of strength" are making desperate attacks. These include the formation of S.E.A.T.O., the forthcoming Bangkok conference, the London and Paris Agreements and above all the N.A.T.O. decision to use atomic weapons.'

He then summed up the tasks of the Japanese Peace Movement as follows:

a) To enlarge the movement against the A and H bombs.

b) To develop the movement for the restoration of normal relations with China and the Soviet Union.

c) To oppose the plan for the revision of the Constitution as it would legalise rearmament, conscription and the expansion of the armed forces and of the programme of military bases.

d) To win public opinion for the idea of collective security in Asia, based on the Five Principles.

The session approved the resolutions and resommendations of the Stockholm session of the World Council of Peace and adopted the following texts:

— Demands to the Japanese Government and political parties;

— An Appeal to the Japanese People;

— and resolutions on the N.A.T.O. decisions, on the London and Paris Agreements, on the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, on the United States-Chiang Kai-shek mutual aid pact, etc.

In the course of the discussion on the atomic and hydrogen bombs the Hiroshima delegates stated: 'We cannot achieve the banning of atomic weapons without co-ordinated international action. Hiroshima will make every effort to prepare for the World Conference for the Prohibition of the A and H bombs.'

The session stressed the need to continue the campaign against atomic and hydrogen bombs and to collect the signatures of every man and woman in Japan. It pointed out that the most important thing is to enlarge the movement into a campaign on a world scale.

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A meeting of Japanese fishing industry directors was held in Tokyo on January 10. The participants adopted a resolution demanding that atomic and hydrogen bomb tests should be stopped and demanded that Japan should receive full compensation for the damage caused by those that had already taken place.

'It was in the hope of broadening and strengthening our campaign on a world scale that I came to the January meeting of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace, and I shall be particularly pleased if the experience of Japan can be of some help in the World Council's international campaign against the preparations for atomic war . . .

'The launching of a world signature campaign fully accords with the hopes of the Japanese people and with my own wishes. I know what will be the joy of my compatriots on learning that the Bureau of the World Council of Peace has launched this campaign.'

Extracts from an interview with Mr. Kaoru Yasui, General Secretary of the Japanese Council against the A and H Bombs

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At a formal meeting in Vienna on February 14, the Secretariat staff of the World Council of Peace signed the Vienna Appeal.

Sweden

The *Fredsbulletin*, a Swedish Peace Committee publication, gives the plan for the organisation of the signature campaign in Sweden. The campaign will open on March 1 and the Swedish Peace Committee will give leaflets, posters and postcards bearing the text of the Vienna Appeal to any organisation or person who wishes to collect signatures. The local peace committees are called upon to draw up plans for their respective districts, and to set up initiating committees to organise the campaign in other districts where no local Committee exists.

These initiating committees should be set up on the widest possible basis and should represent all sections of the people. The young people and the women will play an active part in the collection of signatures in the localities. As part of the campaign there will be public meetings on the themes of the atomic danger and German rearmament. Encouragement will be given to the launching of local appeals and statements by public figures announcing their support for the Vienna Appeal.

The Swedish Peace Committee will publish a regular bulletin during the campaign.

Fredsbulletin points out in conclusion that conditions are much better at the present time for obtaining an excellent result than they were at the time of the Stockholm Appeal. The public outcry last year against the H bomb tests in the Pacific (statement by Mr. Gustav Möller, former government minister; statement by Mr. Einar Norrman, Vice-Chairman of the Swedish Confederation of Trade Unions; the questions asked in Parliament, statements by the leaderships of the Social Democratic and Popular parties and by various youth and other organisations) clearly showed that the great majority of the Swedish people want the banning of atomic weapons. The strength with which public opinion will express itself now depends on the individual contribution of each friend of peace.

French Delegation to Visit Soviet Atomic Factory

The President of the French Economic Council announced at a press conference that a French delegation will go to the Soviet Union in March. It will be composed of members of the Economic Council's Industrial Production Committee.

The delegation will visit a Soviet atomic factory. Mr. Roche made it clear that the Soviet authorities had declared themselves favourable to such a visit.

At the Vienna meeting of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace, Mr. Ilya Ehrenburg stated:

'We know those whom it is intended to put at the head of the new German army: There is General Crüwell, former inspirer of the "black Reichswehr", one of those who took part in the invasion of Yugoslavia . . .'

Wien, Mittwoch, 10. September 1941

BACHTER

Der Führer und Oberste Befehlshaber der Wehrmacht verlieh, wie schon berichtet, Generalleutnant Crüwell, Kommandeur einer Panzerdivision, als 54. Offizier der Deutschen Wehrmacht das Eichenlaub zum Ritterkreuz des Eisernen Kreuzes. Der Führer überreicht Generalleutnant Crüwell (zweite Bild) im Führer-Hauptquartier persönlich die hohe Auszeichnung

Our photo shows the September 10, 1941 number of the *Völkischer Beobachter*, organ of the Nazi Party. The photo shows General Crüwell (*right*) being congratulated by Hitler who has just confered on him 'oak leaves' to his Iron Cross.

After the European Conference in Paris (December 11—12, 1954)

Warsaw Meeting for Negotiation on the German Question

The following communique was published in Warsaw on February 6:

On February 6 the delegation from the European Conference for the peaceful solution of the German problem, which was held in Paris last December, met in Warsaw the delegations from Eastern Europe who had been refused entry visas into France.

This second meeting was attended by 51 delegates, a majority of whom are Members of Parliament, representing the following countries: Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Rumania, Soviet Union, Switzerland.

They first of all unanimously and formally opposed any rearmament which could give rise to the revival of German militarism. The delegates from the Eastern powers categorically stated that as a result of the human and material losses suffered by their countries none of their fellow-countrymen could accept such a possibility.

Furthermore, the participants became convinced, particularly after listening to the Soviet delegates, that the spirit of negotiation and mutual understanding would infallibly be ruined by the ratification of the London and Paris Agreements. On the other hand, they were unanimous in noting that at the present time an agreement between the powers could be concluded on the following points:

1) The simultaneous evacuation of all occupation troops from Germany. If this were to be done the Soviet Union would withdraw its troops to its own territory and would at the same time withdraw the Soviet military contingents stationed in Poland to protect the communication lines of the Soviet occupation troops in Germany.

Such reciprocal measures would help to relax tension in Europe.

2) The unification of Germany through free, supervised elections to be carried through on the basis of an electoral law guaranteeing all democratic freedoms as envisaged in the proposal made by Sir Anthony Eden in Berlin.

3) Observance of the pledges made at Potsdam. Germany would hold aloof from all military coalitions and the integrity of her frontiers would be guaranteed by the other European powers and the United States.

Only the settlement of the German problem, by bringing security to Europe, will enable the Austrian State Treaty to be signed.

The German delegates from both East and West described the extent of the movement for unification and against rearmament in their country. It is the imperative duty of all the powers to encourage this movement.

In this way the prerequisites for general disarmament — desired by the people the world over — will be fulfilled.

U.S.A.: North California Peace Council Issues Leaflet

The North California Peace Council has put out a leaflet stressing the dangers of the London and Paris Agreements which are being submitted for ratification by the United States Senate. If they are ratified, says the leaflet, 'the German army will march again — equipped with atomic weapons'.

'Just as the peoples' desire for peace resulted in stopping war in Korea and Indo-China', it goes on, 'we, the people, can stop German rearmament'.

In conclusion, the North California Peace Council calls on the people to let the senators know of their opposition to German rearmament and to support 'Senator Ralph Flanders' call for a reunited, neutral unarmed Germany with its neutrality "guaranteed by both the Soviet Government and the Western powers" '. (Senator Flanders' position was given in issue No. 20 of this Bulletin published on October 15, 1954.)

15,000 Canadian Electrical Workers

The trade union co-ordinating committee of the Canadian General Electric Co., one of the biggest concerns in the Canadian electrical industry and employing 15,000 workers, has unanimously condemned German rearmament.

Dr. James Endicott, Chairman of the Canadian Peace Congress, has urged the Canadian Government to hold a national referendum on rearming West Germany.

At a meeting of Congress delegates he stated that a referendum would show how few Canadians, 100,000 of whom lost their lives in the two wars, want to see West Germany rearmed.

Meetings and Rallies in Israel

On January 25 in Tel Aviv the Peace Movement held a big protest meeting against the Paris Agreements for the creation of a new Wehrmacht, this time equipped with atomic weapons, and against the Turkey-Iraq pact which is a grave threat to peace in the Middle East.

At the beginning of February the Peace Movement held ten mass rallies in different parts of the country to protest against German rearmament and the Turkey-Iraq pact.

A National Conference was called on February 18 in Tel Aviv to study the results of the peace referendum in Israel and to examine the plan of work for the future.

IN THE NORDIC COUNTRIES

● Sweden

At a trade union meeting of the unskilled workers of Stockholm a resolution was adopted which says:

'We note with satisfaction that the German working class is opposing the policy of reviving the Wehrmacht whose crimes during the Second World War are still present in everyone's memory... We consider that all friends of peace have the important task of supporting the workers of Germany in their opposition to the resurgence of the forces of aggression in that country.'

● Norway

After the ratification of the London and Paris Agreements by the Norwegian Parliament protests began to flow in from all sides. The Bjorkasen miners' lodge sent a protest to Parliament together with a declaration of support for the German trade unions and for the forces that are opposing German rearmament in all countries.

The Trondheim railwaymens' trade union branch sent a protest and demanded a national referendum. The Larvik branch of the Federation of Chemical Workers, the Bergen branches of the Gasworkers and Bricklayers, the Oslo Plumbers' branch, the Mo Engineers' branch, the Baerum Building Workers, the Grorud Women's Association, the workers constructing the Nordland railway line and the Oslo Bricklayers' Federation have all made public protests. The Woodworkers' Union stressed that it is the responsibility of Norwegian workers 'to see that this does not happen'.

● Denmark

The wave of protest against German rearmament continues to rise and even members of the different parties that are favourable to the remilitarisation of West Germany demand that a national referendum be held on this question.

In a number of localities and streets there have been ballots on the referendum. In Istegade Street in Aalborg, 108 people voted against rearmament and for the referendum, while only five voted for rearmament. A similar ballot in a street in Valby gave the following result: 306 for a referendum and 26 against.

The protests against German rearmament and the demands for a national referendum continue to flow in; we may mention those of the workers of Slosturp, Kolding and Naestved, the trade union leaders of Villingebaeck, university students and students of the Polytechnic and scientific institutes.

The newspaper *Information* writes that in the last period there has been an increase of more than 100,000 in the number of protests sent to Parliament.

Thirty well-known Social Democrats have asked the Social Democratic Parliamentary party to re-examine the appeal of the West German Social Democratic party.

The German Manifesto

A Manifesto was adopted in Frankfurt on January 29 after a meeting in St. Paul's Church where Germany's first Parliament met in 1848.

Here are some extracts from the Manifesto:

'The setting up of German armed forces in the Federal Republic and in the Soviet zone would kill all chances of reunification for an indefinite period and would increase East-West tension... The terrible fate which would bring brothers and sisters of one family face to face in two different armies with guns in their hands would become a reality.

'At this time, faced with the danger of such a situation, every voice that is free to speak out must give a warning that cannot be ignored. Those who do not see that the ratification of the Paris agreements would involve a great danger, that of closing the door to four power negotiations on the reunification of Germany in freedom, would bear an unparalleled responsibility.

'Agreement between the Four Great Powers on the need to conclude an agreement on reunification must come before the formation of military blocs. It is both possible and necessary to find the conditions, acceptable both to Germany and her neighbours, which will ensure the peaceful co-existence of the nations of Europe through the reunification of Germany. The German people has a right to reunification.'

This Manifesto was signed by

— the entire Presiding Committee of the German Social Democratic Party including the President and the Vice-President.

— a large number of Social Democratic members of the Federal Parliament and the provincial parliaments.

— many trade union leaders, including the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the D.G.B. (Confederation of West German Trade Unions), Walter Freitag and George Reuter, along with almost all the provincial chairmen of the D.G.B. and the chairmen of various industrial unions.

The collection of signatures to the Manifesto has been started.

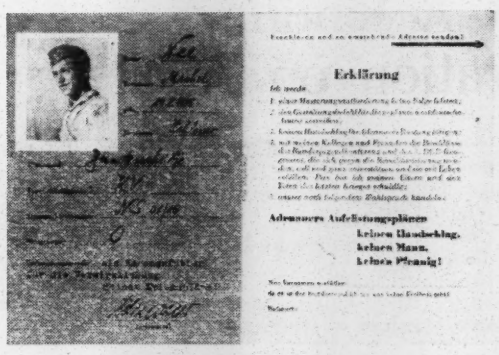
*

The President of the Federal Parliament in Bonn, Mr. Gerstenmaier, member of Chancellor Adenauer's Christian Democrat Union, stated to the students of the Evangelical Academy at Bad Boll that the Paris agreements are in no way as favourable as some M.P.s of his party think. Gerstenmaier added that if a speaker was to declare from the rostrum of the Federal Parliament that the young people are enthusiastic at the idea of setting up an army, he would refute the statement, even if he had to give up his position as President to do so.

Mr. Sieveking, Mayor of Hamburg and also a member of the Christian Democrat Union, stated that the Federal Republic must open talks with the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic.

Mr. Helmut Kater, Secretary of the Confederation of West German Trade Unions, representing the young people on the Presiding Committee of the Engineers' Trade Union, told 1,500 young people at Dortmund that young trade unionists are opposed to any form of rearmament.

NOT A MAN! NOT A PENNY!



A leaflet in the form of a soldiers' paybook is being circulated in Germany.

The left-hand inside page gives an imaginary identity and makes allusions to conscription which threatens the young people, while the right-hand inside page contains a statement including these sentences:

'I will not give the slightest help to German rearmament.

'I, and my colleagues and friends, fully support the resolutions of the Federal Youth Conference and of the third Congress of the Confederation of West German Trade Unions, which are directed against remilitarisation, and I will strive to make them effective. I owe this to my parents and to the dead of the last war.

'I will always abide by the motto:
Don't lift a finger,
Not a man and not a penny
For the plans to rearm Germany!'

The back page is in the form of a postcard which is intended for posting to

Herr Hasso von Manteuffel,
Nordkanal-Allee 68,
Neuss.

France's Role in General Negotiations

At the time of the governmental crisis in France, the Bureau of the National Council of the French Peace Movement issued the following statement:

'The recent Soviet notes on German reunification, free elections under international surveillance and the evacuation of the occupied territories have opened new prospects of agreement between the great powers which opposed each other at the Berlin Conference. If all the interested parties make a sincere effort, such an agreement could soon be achieved...

'It is the duty of France to take this decisive step towards general negotiation.

'The government France needs is a government capable of taking this step in the interests of our country's security and of peace.'

The week of action against German rearmament, February 14—20, was marked by many and varied demonstrations, particularly by deputations to the senators who have yet to take a decision on the ratification of the London and Paris Agreements.

The previous fortnight had seen intensive preparatory work at all levels.

The Peace Movement recommended that representations should be made to the town and county councillors who, in the main, compose the electoral colleges which elect the senators. Following on these deputations, many of them went on record against the London and Paris Agreements.

In the Rhone Department, for example, an appeal to the senators by town and county councillors has already been signed by 10 county councillors, 50 mayors and 232 deputy mayors. In the Gard Department 33 municipal councils and 65 mayors have made known their opposition to the agreements. In the Cambrai region 210 elected representatives, including 44 Socialists and 41 members of the M.R.P., have made a stand. So have 373 elected representatives in the Haute-Vienne Department, including the Socialist mayor of Oradour-sur-Glane.

At the same time the people were informed of the content and consequences of the agreements, and of the position of the senators, at many meetings in the factories and localities and at district and departmental rallies of which we may mention those held at Vimy, Marguion (Nord), Toulouse and Saint-Nazaire. Memorial ceremonies were held at the war memorials and at the plaques in honour of those shot by the Nazis and of the martyrs of the Resistance.

Appeals for unity were issued and special mention should be made of the great number of such appeals made by workers of all political standpoints and trade union affiliations in the factories.

The French Delegation at the Warsaw Meeting

We give on another page the final communique of the Warsaw meeting between a delegation of the European Conference for the Peaceful Solution of the German Problem and the delegates who were refused visas to enter France.

At this meeting France was represented by Mr. Paul Bastid, member of the Institute; Mr. Pierre Lebon, the late Georges Loustanau-Lacau, Mr. Michel Maurice-Bokanowski, Mr. Pierre Villon, M.P.s of the Social Republican, Peasant, Gaullist and Communist parties respectively; Mr. Jacques Debû-Bridel, Gaullist Senator for the Seine Department; Mr. Michel Brugier and Mr. Etienne Nouveau, barristers; Mr. Elie Rouby, Chairman of the Corrèze County Council; and Mrs. Maurice-Bokanowski.

On their return, the French representatives expressed their satisfaction. Here, for example, is what Mr. Jacques Debû-Bridel wrote in *Le Monde:*

'To understand properly the importance of the final statement of our last meeting, it is essential to bear in mind the status of the delegates from the Eastern countries.

'The delegations were received at the Polish Diet by its President; the first meeting was presided over by Mr. George Michalowski, former ambassador and today Secretary of State for Education. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Polish Foreign Affairs Commission, Mr. O. Dluski and Mr. Kulczynski, led the Polish delegation; Mr. Johannes Dieckmann, Chairman of the People's Chamber, the East German delegation, etc. It was before a gathering of this importance that Mr. Alexander Korneichuk, member of the Supreme Soviet, read his reply to the questions we had asked him. They are summed up in the communique; to be quite frank, they go further than I had hoped.'

Preparing the World Assembl

France

National Demonstration on April 3

The French Peace Movement is preparing to hold, on April 3, a national demonstration which will bring together all the peaceful forces in the country. The French people's activity in their struggle against German rearmament, as reported in the press, is proof that the French Movement is preparing for the national demonstration through action.

The themes of the demonstration are, of course, those imposed by the present international situation: opposition to German rearmament and to the atomic threat, and the demand for negotiation, independence and peace.

Between 1,500 and 1,800 delegates will bring with them the French people's unshakeable determination to see peaceful solutions prevail over attempted solutions by force.

The demonstration will be the occasion for the solemn inauguration of the great campaign against the preparations for atomic war launched by the Bureau of the World Council of Peace.

To prepare for the demonstration and also for sending a French delegation to the World Assembly in Helsinki, the French Peace Movement has put out cards which will not only help in the collection of the necessary funds but will also be so many mandates given by millions of French people to the delegates to these gatherings.

In order to achieve the best possible preparation for all this activity, the Departmental secretaries of the Peace Movement have designated February 27 as a day to be devoted to organisational problems.

Appeal of the French Peace Movement for a National Assembly of Peace Forces

The appeal for the national demonstration of April 3, adopted by the National Council of the French Peace Movement at its meeting on January 29 and 30, says:

'The year 1954 gave the people reasons for hope, but there is now a danger that all that has been achieved will be jeopardised.

'The London and Paris Treaties would give German militarism the means of crushing the peace forces in Germany, of threatening her neighbours and unleashing war.

'Tension is growing in the Far East and threatening to rekindle the ashes of war.

'The N.A.T.O. decisions seek to regularise the use of atomic weapons and they give governments and general staffs the power to use them regardless of the rights of parliaments and the demands of mankind.

'Only the peoples' will to peace can raise an effective barrier against these resurgent dangers.

The peoples demanded and obtained the armistices in Korea and Indo-China and the rejection of E.D.C.; they have the power to prevent the remilitarisation of Germany and to halt the atomic threat.

'This double danger must be averted. The French people will summon all their strength and will take their place in the front line of the common struggle.

'The National Peace Council calls on all forces for peace in the country to unite their efforts and send their representatives to the great assembly against German rearmament and the atomic danger, for the independence and security of France and for negotiation, disarmament and peace.

'This national demonstration will help to send a French delegation to the World Assembly for Peace which will open in Helsinki on May 22.'

Union of South Africa

On March 4 the South African Peace Council will hold a session specially devoted to the preparations for the World Assembly. It will study reports on the political tasks of the Movement and on organisational questions in relation to the preparation of the Assembly.

The importance of the proposed World Pea
those countries of Europe, Asia, Africa and the
or be annihilated in a world conflict in whic
The imperialists wanted at first to make Asian
easy, they now wish to make Europeans figh

All nations that want to live and let live, t
man or of nation by nation, must therefore m
imperialist game. They should further insist u
destruction. This is the programme that lies
make a fervent appeal that nations that want t
of others should regard it as a sacred duty t

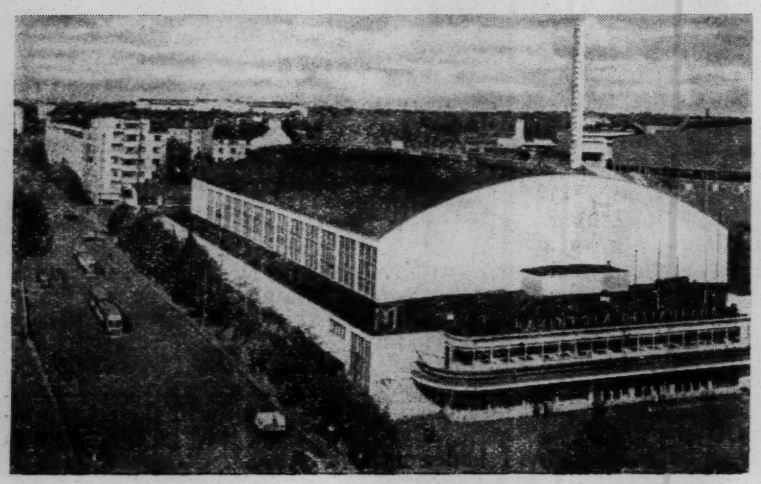
Spanish Peace Commi

The Spanish Peace Commission's present plan of work is based on the preparations for the World Assembly which are being linked up with the concrete objectives of the Spanish Peace Movement, mainly the struggle against the military pact signed between Washington and Madrid.

The Commission proposes to develop a wide campaign to publicise the decisions of the Stockholm session of the World Council of Peace, and particularly the decision to hold the World Assembly. It is preparing broadly representative meetings which will promote the participation of the peace forces of Spain in the Assembly and these will culminate in a great assembly representative of the whole Spanish Peace Movement at which the delegates to the World Assembly will be elected.

Furthermore, the Spanish Peace Commission's statement was widely distributed during a special day of protest and struggle against the Washington-Madrid military pact and the Commission received many letters from individuals and groups of various political standpoints and walks of life showing the growing trend of opposition to the military pact. These letters came from a number of Spanish cities.

Of the documents demonstrating the wide support for the Assembly among the most diverse circles we may mention the following: a notebook from Barcelona containing the signatures of more than 200 industrialists, merchants, intellectuals, students and workers; resolutions signed by the workers of two factories in Catalonia, letters signed by whole families, and statements by young students, women, intellectuals, workers and peasants.



The exhibition hall in Helsinki where the World Assembly for Peace will be held.

HELSINKI the wh

Professor Felix Iversen, Vice-President of the World Federati
of United Nations Associations, stated in an interview given
the editorial board of the Bulletin:

We Finnish people are happy that the World Assembly for Pea
is being held in our country and we will joyfully receive the be
representatives of the forces of peace of all countries. We hope th
we shall acquit ourselves successfully of the honourable task of acti
as host to this most important international meeting, in co-operati
with all those who want peace in our country.

Our capital, Helsinki, with its 450,000 inhabitants, is assured
not a huge city, but it is both modern and beautiful. It is call
the white city of the North and this will not be the first time that
has acted as host to an international meeting. It was the scene of t

mbly (Helsinki, May 22, 1955)

orld Peace Congress in May next is very great for all
a and the world which do not want to annihilate others
in which weapons of mass destruction may be used.
ke Asians fight and annihilate Asians. Not finding it so
eans fight Europeans or Europeans fight Asians.
et live, that want to stop the exploitation of man by
refore meet and make up their minds not to play the
r insist upon an absolute ban on all weapons of mass
hat lies before the proposed May Congress and I do
at want to preserve their freedom and also the freedom
l duty to join it.

Pandit Sunderlal (India)

ommission's Plan of Work

Of the activities carried on by Spaniards in their countries of exile in connection with the day of protest and struggle against the Madrid-Washington military pact, those of the Spanish defenders of peace resident in France merit particular mention. Twenty important demonstrations were held in the main cities and more than a hundred meetings in other localities. Among the thousands of people who took part were many who had never before been present at a demonstration of the Peace Movement.

In preparation for the day of action, 25,000 signatures against the military pact were collected among Spanish people resident in France.

Important public demonstrations were held in other countries, particularly in London, Montevideo and Mexico City.

In a joint resolution adopted by the Presidiums of the Polish Committee for the Defence of Peace and the Polish Committee of the National Front, it is stated:

'The forces of peace are more powerful than the forces of war. The peoples will come to the great Assembly in Helsinki in May 1955 of the representatives of the forces of peace of all the countries of the world, having won new successes in carrying out the decisions of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace.

The Assembly will mark out the way to be followed in the victorious struggle of all the peoples for peace, security, independence and well-being.'

National Assembly in Brazil

Opinion alarmed by H bomb tests at South Pole

The Brazilian Peace Movement has called a national assembly of representatives of the forces of peace, the main object of which is to prepare for Brazil's participation in the World Assembly in Helsinki. The following agenda has been proposed:

1) The world situation and the threat of a new war: the armaments race and weapons of mass destruction.

2) The situation in Latin Amreica and the threat of a new world war.

At the same time the Brazilian Peace Movement has drawn public attention to the danger of the H bomb tests which the United States is proposing to hold at the South Pole. The announcement of these plans and the warning issued by the Peace Movement are arousing a great deal of interest. An official spokesman, Major Rangel, member of the National Council for Scientific Research, has said that if the United States really intends to carry out tests on the hydrogen bomb at the South Pole precautionary measures will be necessary.

In its January 20th number, the big Sao Paulo daily *Ultima Hora* published a report on the Stockholm session of the World Council of Peace signed by the Brazilian writer Alfonso Schmidt who took part in the session.

Chinese People Support Resolutions of World Council of Peace

In order to popularise widely and effectively the important results of the Stockholm session and show how to put its decisions into practice, the Chinese People's Committee for World Peace organised a great discussion meeting on the return of the Chinese delegation from Stockholm. Dr. Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the Committee, presided and the meeting was attended by more than 900 people.

A general report on the Stockholm session was given by Mr. Wu Yao-tsung, a member of the Chinese delegation.

Then Mr. Jose Cueto M. P., member of the Chilean Labour Party, and Mr. Togo Kameda from Japan, addressed the meeting.

The meeting adopted unanimously and with great enthusiasm a resolution of support for the decisions of the Stockholm session.

Here are some extracts from this important resolution:

'The participants in this meeting express their unanimous and enthusiastic support for the resolutions adopted by the World Council of Peace at its Stockholm session.

'The Address to the Peoples issued by the Stockholm session stresses that the ratification of the London and Paris Agreements would inevitably lead to the resurgence of militarism in West Germany and would incorporate it in the N.A.T.O. aggressive military bloc, thereby giving rise to a new crisis for peace in Europe and throughout the world.

'That is why the peoples of all countries were called upon resolutely to oppose the London and Paris Agreements and to demand the immediate calling of a Four Power Conference to settle the German question and safeguard European security.

'We unanimously support the resolution on the situation created in various parts of Asia by foreign pressure and by the system of military blocs and coalitions adopted by the Stockholm session of the World Council of Peace.

'Together with all the other peoples of Asia, we shall continue our struggle to foil the new aggressive plot the circles that want war, to strengthen and extend the zone of peace in Asia and establish collective peace and security in Asia on the basis of the five principles of peaceful co-existence.

'We fully support the resolutions of the Stockholm session in favour of disarmament and the banning of weapons of mass destruction and condemning foreign interference in the internal affairs of nations. We warmly welcome the appeal for a World Assembly for Peace in May 1955.'

white City of the North

Olympic Games in 1952 and many other international meetings have been held there.

Finland is a bridge between East and West; with both we have extensive economic and cultural relations. This co-operation between our people and all its neighbours is a tangible proof of the possibility of peaceful co-existence between countries with different political and social systems. From this point of view also Finland is peculiarly suited to receive a World Assembly in a spirit of peace, understanding and co-operation between the peoples of the world.

We are happy that at the end of May, the time when the Spring comes to Helsinki with its first light nights, chasing the frost and darkness, we shall also be welcoming the messengers of the forces of peace in all countries — forces that bring springtime and light to the whole of mankind.

A corner of the old city in the centre of Helsinki, with its great church.

Soviet Public Opinion Welcomes the Bureau's Appeal

Mr. Mikhail Kotov, Secretary of the Soviet Peace Committee, has made the following statement to the press:

'The Appeal to the Peoples of the World and the other documents of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace mark an important stage in the powerful movement of the peoples against the danger of a new war. The struggle for peace, for the right of the peoples to live in peace, is growing in strength on every continent.

'Along with all friends of peace in every part of the world, the Soviet people demand the banning of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy exclusively for peaceful purposes. And the Soviet people express their demands in their actions. The Soviet government has decided to make its scientific and technical experience in the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes available to other countries. Thus the necessary help will be given to China, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania and the German Democratic Republic. The Soviet government has declared itself ready to divulge the experience it has gained in the construction and working of the first atomic power station at the forthcoming international conference. Is this not a clear proof of the Soviet Union's great concern for peace and the progress of mankind?

'Ordinary people from every corner of our enormous country are sending their views on the decisions of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace to the Soviet Peace Committee. In their letters and telegrams the Soviet people greet these decisions and pillory those who want to unleash an atomic war and re-establish the German army.'

Mr. Kotov said that the Soviet Peace Committee would hold a general discussion on the decisions of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace in the near future. 'The Soviet people', he said, 'will be glad to sign the appeal for the banning of atomic weapons and in this way they will demonstrate their devotion to the cause of peace, their determination to work for the happiness of mankind, for progress and peaceful co-existence between all the peoples.'

Many Meetings . . .

After the decisions of the World Council of Peace designed to ban atomic and hydrogen weapons, big meetings have been organised by the local peace committees in the republics, territories and regions. Recently such meetings have been held at Ordjonikidze, Sverdlovsk, Stalingrad, Penza, Stavropol, Makhatchkala, Ivanovo, Kaluga, Kaliningrad, Ulianovsk and elsewhere.

In a big meeting held at Grozny, Professor Sukharev, Chairman of the Regional Committee for the Defence of Peace, stated: 'The will of the peoples can and must bring about the banning and the destruction of atomic weapons.'

Mr. Volchukhin, foreman bricklayer, stated on behalf of all the town's building workers that they fully supported the decisions of the World Council of Peace.

'The Soviet people do not want war', he said. 'The facts bear witness to this. Look at our Grozny. We are going ahead with great construction jobs and we do not want these houses, factories and power stations to be destroyed by an atomic bomb'.

'The sole desire of our people', said a collective farm chairman, 'is to live in peace with all the peoples of the world, who, like the entire Soviet people, approve of the decisions of the World Council of Peace against the attempts to use atomic energy for military purposes'.

At scientific meetings and sessions, Academicians and professors have stigmatised the use of mankind's great discoveries for war as crime and called on the scientists of every country to declare themselves in favour of the banning of weapons of mass destruction.

At a meeting in Kaliningrad, Mrs. Aksenova, mother of several children, stated:

'The world is big and beautiful. There is room enough for all peoples, big and small. But can the mothers sleep peacefully when they know that the stocks of A and H bombs are being increased? I am certain that millions of people in every corner of the world will arise to defend peace and protect their children.'

At an extended meeting of the Presidium of the Soviet Peace Committee it was decided to hold a plenary session of the Soviet Committee attended by representatives of the local Peace Committees. This session will discuss the measures to be taken to organise the collection of signatures to the Vienna Appeal.

70 to 80 per cent of People of Iceland demand: 'End foreign occupation'

The Icelandic Committee against the American occupation has published a general picture of the first results of the signature campaign for the abrogation of the treaty giving the United States the right to maintain military bases in Iceland. Although some signature forms have not yet been returned, the committee has estimated that about seventy to eighty per cent of the population has signed.

Many well-known figures in public life have supported the campaign.

Asian Lawyers' Conference in Calcutta

The Asian Lawyers' Conference, held under the auspices of the All-India Association of Democratic Lawyers, ended on January 30, after six days of debates. The lawyers discussed vitally important problems such as the legal aspect of the sovereignty of the peoples and the outlawing of all means of mass extermination.

The conference was attended by delegates and observers from Australia, Burma, China, Celyon, Egypt, Indonesia, Japan, the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, Pakistan, the U.S.S.R., Thailand, the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and other countries.

In his opening speech, Dr. Radhabinod Pal, member of the conference presiding committee and member of the International Law Commission of the United Nations Organisation, stressed the awakening of the peoples of Asia and pointed out the important role of Asia in the world political situation.

Mr. D. N. Pritt Q. C., Great Britain, President of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, pointed out the serious menace to world peace of the rearming of Western Germany and the formation of the Manila pact bloc.

Mr. Kaoru Yasui, member of the Japanese delegation and professor of international law at Hosei and Kanagawa Universities, reported on the banning of all atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction. He pointed out that the American experiments in the Bikini area are a manifest violation of international law as this territory is not American. By appropriating an area of the high seas in this manner the United States are guilty of a flagrant violation of the freedom of the high seas.

By the provisions of international law the United States are obliged to pay compensation for all the damage caused by these tests, he said, and went on to call for the banning of all weapons of mass destruction.

After Mr. Yasui's report, a Japanese delegate read a message from Mrs. Suzu Kuboyama, the widow of Aikichi Kuboyama, the first victim of the American hydrogen bomb test at Bikini, in which she asked the lawyers to work unrelentingly for the abolition of atomic and hydrogen bombs.

At the January 29 session, the leader of the Chinese delegation, Chang Chih-jang, showed that the question of Taiwan (Formosa), historically part of China, is an internal matter. Referring to the forthcoming Afro-Asian Conference, Chang Chih-jang stated that the decision of the Prime Ministers of the Colombo countries to call this conference was in harmony with the earnest desire of the people of all Asian countries.

The resolutions adopted at the closing session dealt mainly with the five principles of peaceful co-existence; national sovereignty; and the banning of all atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction.

NORTH AFRICA

Mr. Abdul Rahman Bouchama, President of the Algerian Peace Movement, sums up the work for peace in North Africa in the following interview given to the Bulletin of the World Council of Peace.

'The incidents and dangers threatening peace in North Africa have grown in number, especially since the French National Assembly voted in favour of the London and Paris Agreements.

'Plans are mooted for the construction of factories to make atomic bombers and for the creation of an atomic industry in the Sahara. It should be noted that there already exist in Morocco an atomic weapons dump and runways for atomic bombers.

'So the peoples of North Africa welcome all moves for peace and the banning of atomic and thermonuclear weapons.

'They gave a particularly favourable reception to the calling of the forthcoming Afro-Asian Conference which will not only be a valuable contribution to peace in the Far East and in the world as a whole, but will also encourage the peoples of North Africa in their profound desire for independence.

'Obviously, in this situation there is a need for a broader and more powerful Peace Movement, so in both Algeria and Tunisia measures are being taken as part of the campaign against the preparations for atomic war to widen and strengthen the existing Movement and to elect a very representative delegation to the World Assembly for Peace.'

Peoples of Asia Support Afro-Asian Conference

On the initiative of the Indonesian Government, the governments of the Colombo countries decided at Bogor to call a conference of Asian and African countries at Jakarta on April 5. Twenty-five countries from the two continents have already been invited, including the People's Republic of China.

Burma

The calling of the Afro-Asian Conference will be beneficial to the Peace Movement in Asia and the world, declared the Burmese Peace Committee in a statement on January 17.

The Committee appealed to the sponsoring nations to invite more Asian and African countries to take part in the conference.

Pakistan

Commenting on the Afro-Asian Conference, Maulana Bhasani, President of the East Bengal Awami People's League and delegate of the Pakistan Peace Movement to the recent session of the World Council of Peace in Stockholm, told newsmen in Calcutta:

'We'll support any efforts which go to safeguard peace in Asia.'

Indonesia

In a statement to the press, Professor Prijono, winner of the Stalin International Prize for the Consolidation of Peace, said that he was optimistic about the future of the Afro-Asian Conference. He added that the five principles for peaceful co-existence should be a basic question to be discussed at the conference and that, unlike N.A.T.O. or S.E.A.T.O., these principles were not based on armed force but on moral strength and real ideals of peace.

India: Regional Conference in Bangalore

Four hundred delegates and guests attended a conference for peace and Asian solidarity held in Bangalore with Mr. J. Kumarappa, member of the World Council of Peace, in the chair.

The Conference adopted a resolution condemning the United States—Chiang Kai-shek pact as interference in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of China. In another resolution, the Conference welcomed the calling of the Afro-Asian Conference and expressed the hope that this meeting will establish solidarity between the countries of Asia and Africa.

The Conference stated that the five principles enunciated by the Prime Ministers of India, China and Burma are a powerful force for peace.

All India Peace Council Sends Message to Mr. Nehru

'The Indian people are angered by the statements of certain American representatives saying that atomic and thermonuclear weapons may be used against China. The United States Government must be informed that the Indian people resolutely condemn the plans for unleashing an atomic war . . .'

This is the text of a telegram which the All India Peace Council sent to Mr. Nehru while he was in London.

The All India Peace Council assures Mr. Nehru that the Indian Peace Movement will support any moves he may make for the withdrawal of American troops from the Chinese territory of Taiwan (Formosa) and from Chinese territorial waters.

Important Japanese Organisations

Support the Conference of Asian Countries

In Japan, the preparations for the Conference of Asian Countries, which will be held in New Delhi, April 6—10, are going forward in close relationship to the preparations for the World Assembly for Peace. Important organisations of many kinds and tendencies are supporting the conference, including the following: the General Council of Trade Unions (SOHYO); the All Japan Association of Buddhists; the National Council of Young People's Associations, which are semi-official organisations formerly under the aegis of the central and local governments and to be found in all parts of Japan, particularly in all the villages; the All Japan Federation of Women's Organisations; the Congress of Japanese Intellectuals; the Christian Women's Temperance Society; the National Council against the A and H Bombs; the National Council for Restoring Relations with the Soviet Union and China; the Japanese Peace Committee; and the Association of Members of Parliament for the Promotion of Trade with China.

Meeting in Tokyo on January 17, the Japanese Preparatory Committee for the Conference of Asian Countries decided that Japan will suggest adding the following items to the agenda proposed by the Indian Preparatory Committee:

1) The restoration of diplomatic relations between Asian countries.

2) Co-operation between religious people in the countries of Asia.

3) The promotion of scientific and technological exchanges between the countries of Asia.

On January 18, Mr. Nagano, lawyer and member of the Presiding Committee of the Japanese Preparatory Committee, and Mr. M. Ikeda, General Secretary of the Committee and deputy General Secretary of the Democratic Party, the party in power, visited Mr. Shigemitsu, the Foreign Minister, and asked that the Japanese Government afford facilities for the delegation to attend the Conference of Asian Countries and that it send representatives to the forthcoming Afro-Asian Conference.

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Formosa and Viet Nam

At its special session in January the Japanese Peace Committee adopted a resolution on the Mutual Security Treaty between the United States and Formosa which states in part:

'We regard the U.S.—Formosa Mutual Security Treaty and S.E.A.T.O. as a serious menace to the safety and independence of the Asian countries and we are therefore opposed to these treaties.

'We maintain that a fundamental condition for easing world tension is the reinstatement of China in its proper position in the United Nations, at the same time giving all non-member countries the opportunity of joining that body.'

Another resolution on the situation in Viet Nam denounces the foreign pressure being exerted to reinforce the military strength of South Viet Nam and states: 'We demand strict observance of the cease-fire agreement and non-interference in the internal affairs of the countries concerned.'

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The Kuweit Democratic League has issued an appeal protesting at the arrival of an American fleet in the port of Kuweit. The appeal is also directed against the new influx of British troops and asks the people to actively oppose foreign military occupation.

Lebanese Peace Congress

Calls on the People to Oppose the Atomic Danger and the Setting Up of Military Blocs

The Second Congress of the Lebanese Peace Movement opened on January 22 in the International Club in Beirut. It was attended by 350 delegates and guests from every part of the country and had been carefully prepared by five regional conferences held during the last few months.

The opening speech was delivered by Sheikh A.A. Zein who called on all men of goodwill in the world 'to support the humanitarian activities of the Peace Movement'.

Dr. George Hanna, member of the World Council of Peace, then gave a political report. He enumerated the tasks of the Peace Movement, spoke of their lofty nature and stressed the need for the people of the Lebanon to actively oppose the Turkey-Pakistan-Iraq military pact.

'This pact', he said, 'creates grave danger for the peoples of the Middle East especially after the N.A.T.O. Council decisions on the use of atomic weapons, for Turkey is a member of N.A.T.O.'

Mr. Salem Dablis then gave a detailed report on economic problems. He showed the importance of economic exchanges based on respect for national sovereignty for the maintenance of peace in the world.

The next speaker was Mr. Antoine Tabet who dealt with the World Peace Movement and stressed that the main present task was the intensification of the struggle for the banning of atomic and hydrogen weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

The Congress unanimously adopted three resolutions: on military alliances; on the campaign for the banning of weapons of mass destruction; and on organisational problems.

The Congress enthusiastically welcomed the decision of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace to launch a signature-collecting campaign and the delegates were the first to sign the Appeal in the Lebanon. (*See photo.*)

The delegates to the Congress sign the Appeal against the preparations for atomic war

RESOLUTIONS

On the Campaign for the Banning of Weapons of Mass Destruction

'This Second Congress of the Lebanese Peace Movement disapproves and condemns any attempt to use these criminal and devastating weapons and calls on the Lebanese people to fulfil their duty to their country and to mankind by taking part in the world campaign which says that any government that lets loose atomic war will forfeit the trust of its people and find itself condemned by every people of the world. It invites the people to oppose the preparations for atomic war and to demand the destruction of atomic weapons wherever they may be and the stopping of their manufacture.'

On Military Alliances

'Great efforts are openly being made to incorporate the Lebanon and the other Arab countries in war alliances and military blocs.

'These efforts are being accompanied by strong foreign pressure on the Arab countries with a view to dividing them and bringing back the occupation troops.

'To date, the Lebanese people in all walks of life and in all national organisations have rejected the imperialist projects for military alliances in whatever form and under whatever name. The Peace Movement has taken part in the resistance to these projects.

'This Second National Congress of the Lebanese Peace Movement declares that the Peace Movement is ready to support any move by any person, organisation, Member of Parliament or official figure, if it is aimed at preserving our country from the danger of military alliances and from devastation by atom and hydrogen bombs, and is ready to help in the defence of peace and in furthering the relaxation of international tension.'

RECOMMENDATIONS

on Organisational Questions

'This Second National Congress of the Lebanese Peace Movement expresses its satisfaction that the Peace Movement has actively participated in the Lebanese people's resistance to war plans and has co-operated in action for the defence of peace and to promote the easing of international tension together with the peoples of the entire world.

'This National Congress considers it necessary to stress that the Peace Movement is a democratic mass movement independent of the various parties and sections of society represented in it, and that it continually strives to bring together all who accept the principle of peaceful co-existence between countries with different social systems and the negotiated settlement of international differences, and those who reject the plans of imperialism and war.

14,000 Miles across Australia for Peace

Four hundred and sixty peace meetings in 12 months — 260 of them in the past six months — 14,000 miles covered in a motor-drawn caravan — these figures tell something of the activity for peace by 63 year old, white haired, vigorous former Labour Senator, William Morrow, member of the World Council of Peace.

Mr. Morrow was a guest at the June, 1953 meeting of the World Council of Peace in Budapest and on his return to Australia he plunged into a campaign of meetings organised by the Peace Councils of Victoria and New South Wales.

Then in May 1954, along with Mrs. Morrow, he started out with his car and caravan for the north, driving often over bad roads as he made the 1,000 mile journey along the coast to Cairns in Northern Queensland.

In the many centres strung out along the way he stopped to contact known peace supporters, worked out a date for a meeting on the return trip and delivered publicity material.

In the Cairns district, he stayed for over a month, doing up to four and five meetings a day. He would go to a ship before breakfast, speak to the crew, have breakfast with them, spend the morning making future arrangements, speak at a mill or other workplace in the lunch hour, to a group of women in the afternoon, and to a street or house meeting at night. He addressed the Trades Hall Council, spoke three times at the waterside workers' 'pick-up' centre in the early morning, and drove out to many meetings in the surrounding district.

Everywhere he was well received.

In Yungaburra. for example, the local farmers' organisation postponed the start of its scheduled meeting in a hall, so as to hear Mr. Morrow finish his speech to an attentive audience in the street outside. He also spoke in the streets and halls of other Northern towns, Mareena, Atherton, Malanda, and elsewhere.

Then he started out to return to the south. At all the coastal centres such as Gordonvale, Innisfail and Ingham, there were meetings with waterside workers, railwaymen and the workers of sugar mills, sawmills and meatworks, as well as a film show and meeting in a public hall. A thousand waterside workers came to hear him at Townsville and a thousand meatworkers at Alligator Creek. He spoke to the miners in Collinsville and Scottsville before going on to Mackay to hold the biggest street meeting seen in the town for years.

After Mackay, Rockhampton was the scene of another great success.

After failing to win the co-operation of the Trades Hall officials, Mr. Morrow invited two delegates from every individual trade union to a special private screening of the two films he was using — 'The Atom and You' and 'Hwai River Must Be Harnessed'. The enthusiastic delegates then became his best publicity workers for the big meeting and film show and 500 people came, while the local press printed an extensive interview with him.

At Lake's Creek he was given a great reception by 2,000 workers at one of Australia's biggest meatworks.

From there he continued southwards to speak to ever more fresh audiences: gold and copper miners at Mt. Morgan, farmers at Biloela, labourers at a camp in the bush, religious leaders at Gympie and the townsfolk of Bundaberg and Maryborough.

Finally, at the end of October, he was back at Brisbane where for several weeks he spoke at meetings in and around the city.

Altogether tens of thousands of people had heard him speak of the World Peace Movement's struggle against atomic war, of the need for friendly contact and trade with China and other Asian countries, of the danger of rearming Japan and of linking Australia with military blocs against Asian countries.

Argentine: National Conference

Draws Up Plan for Campaign against Atomic Weapons

The National Committee of the Argentine Peace Movement has held a meeting attended by leaders of the Movement in Buenos Aires and in the different parts of the country. The meeting was specially called to discuss the campaign against the preparations for atomic war and to ensure the best possible organisation of the various activities that will be launched.

Among those who have recently supported the campaign for the banning of atomic weapons are Mr. Alfredo Ferrer and Mr. Alende, both members of parliament. Mr. Alende is president of the Radical group in parliament.

Great Support for Campaign to Defend Argentina's Oil

The campaign to prevent Argentina's oil from falling into the hands of foreign monopolies and being made to serve war-like ends and to ensure that it is used for the country's economic development is being carried on with success.

Many well-known persons have supported the campaign, including the following: Mr. Jose V. Liceaga, Radical M. P.; Father Amendola de Tebaldi, a Catholic priest; Mr. Carlos Fernandez Ordonez, former Democratic member of the Cordoba provincial parliament; Mr. Carlos Becerra, member of the Cordoba provincial parliament; Mr. Ferrer Zanchi, Radical M. P.; Mr. Virgilio Yanzon, president of the Mining Association of San Juan; Mr. Alfonso Plan, president of the Legal Committee of the Radical Civic Union, a political party; Mr. Romeo Bonazzola, former M.P.; Mr. Juan Jose Diaz Arana, leader of the Progressive Democratic Party; Mr. Ismael Marcon, Mr. Norberto Valdes, Mr. Armando Genovese and Mr. Telmo Alvarez, all members of the National Convention of the Radical Civic Union; Mr. Antonio Tonelli, a university leader; Professor Miguel Derito, former counsellor at the Faculty of Medicine; Mr. Emilio Garcia Iturraspe, President of the Argentine Peace Council; Mr. Alberto Torres, leader of the Chemical Workers' Union; Mr. Rodolfo Lopez, member of the Buenos Aires provincial parliament; Mr. Nicolas Besio Moreno, former Dean of the Engineers' Training Institute; Mr. Robert F. Giusti, writer; Mr. Demetrio Urruchua, painter; Mr. Avelino Sellares, former Progressive Democratic Party M. P.; Mr. Gregorio Berman, psychiatrist; Mr. Juan M. Calvo, former M. P., director of the daily *El Eco de Tandil*.

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URUGUAY

In a statement published at the time of the events in Costa Rica in January, the Uruguayan Peace Council recalls that these events have their source in foreign interference in the internal affairs of the countries of Latin America.

The Uruguayan Peace Councils calls on the people to take action and demands of the Government that, in these circumstances, it make no move towards military intervention; that, on the contrary, it make representations, particularly to the United Nations, for the restoration of peace. The Council also repeats its demand that the Uruguay-United States military treaty be rendered null and void.

The Work of the Cuban Peace Movement

The Cuban Peace Committee devoted a special meeting to the question of German rearmament. At the end of the meeting a statement was issued from which we take the following extracts:

'German rearmament is a brutal contradiction of the people's desire . . .

'We cannot look upon German rearmament as being a question far away and foreign to us. All peoples will suffer the disastrous consequences of a third world war should it break out . . .'

In conclusion, the National Committee calls on the people to unite and join all other peoples in their opposition to German rearmament.

Danger of Bahamas Islands Tests

The Committee also dealt with the danger involved in the war tests to be carried out in the neighbourhood of the Bahamas Islands.

In announcing their intention to hold these tests, the United States authorities explained that 'measures will be taken to safeguard the interests and security of the inhabitants of the territories concerned, as well as civil navigation and air traffic.' This fact alone, the Committee points out, is proof that the tests are 'a danger to the inhabitants of the Caribbean and to navigation in this area. The danger is certain as far as a part of Cuba's northern coast is concerned'.

For this reason, the Committee, which last year campaigned energetically against the bacteriological weapons tests carried out in the area of the Bahamas Islands, calls on the people to oppose these new tests.

Foreign Intervention against American Nations

The situation in Central America was also a subject of wide discussion. After recalling the incidents stirred up between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, the Cuban Peace Committee again denounced intervention against the sovereignty and peace of the nations of America. In conclusion, it called on the peoples of America 'to unite against their common enemies to defend their interests, their freedoms, their sovereignty and their free economic development, and to reject any attempt to provoke differences or conflicts from which only their enemies stood to benefit'.

Mexico: Agenda of National Assembly for Peace and Security

March 18 is the date fixed for the great National Assembly for Peace and Security called by the Mexican Council for Peace and Security and which has already been mentioned in this Bulletin. It will go on for three days.

In a statement, the Mexican Council for Peace and Security puts forward a four-point agenda for discussion:

1) The problems that the war preparations raise for Mexico.

This point is subdivided into a series of subjects which are likely to lead to a wide exchange of views. For example:
— Foreign interference in Mexico's affairs and its effects on democratic freedoms and industrial and commercial development;
— The possibility of a United States—Mexico military pact;
— The defence of the national culture and the struggle against war propaganda;
— The causes of the growing poverty of the Mexican people; and so on.

2) The problems that Mexico has in common with the rest of Latin America.

This point contains the following subjects:
— The stirring up of artificial rivalries between the countries of Latin America;
— Mexico, a supplier of raw materials, food products and men for war;
— Mexico, a favourable field for foreign investment.

3) The precarious position of peace in the world.

This point includes the questions of German rearmament and the London and Paris Agreements, aggressive blocs, the N.A.T.O. decisions on the use of atomic weapons, and so on.

4) The organisation of the forces for peace in Mexico.

The Mexican Council's statement has the following to say on the character of the Assembly:

'We invite all Mexicans to take part, either individually or collectively, in the National Assembly for Peace and Security . . . and to make reports and speeches, or, if they prefer, to follow the discussion as observers. It should be clearly understood that the participants must not feel themselves bound by any pledge or obligation to subscribe to the conclusions that the Assembly will draw . . .''

Discussion of the 'Programme for a Peaceful Foreign Policy'

At the present time local and regional rallies are being held throughout the country to discuss the 'Programme for a Peaceful Foreign Policy' which has already been presented in the Bulletin of the World Council of Peace.

One of these was the Municipal Convention for National Progress and Peace held in Havana. Its agenda was a follows:

1) Report of the Havana Peace Council.

2) Discussion on the 'Programme for a Peaceful Foreign Policy'.

3) Discussion of a plan of work to develop activity for peace.

4) Election of delegates to the National Convention.

The Brazilian film director Alberto Cavalcanti has made the following appeal to Brazilian film workers:

The cinema is the most popular and the most powerful of all arts, and the one that is best suited to enhance national culture and promote friendship among the peoples: That is why it is being attacked today by those who want the most atrocious of all wars — atomic war — a war the peoples do not want.

In Brazil as elsewhere these circles are attempting to substitute films of violence, hate and despair, films of preparation for war, in place of our national cinema depicting the life of our country, its customs and traditions, its sufferings, joys and struggles.

I appeal to all Brazilian film workers who love their country and their art, and I urge them to realise the gravity of the danger and join the great world movement of action against the threat of atomic war. By defending peace they are defending our national culture, our national cinema.

Alberto CAVALCANTI

Cultural Anniversaries for 1955

Andersen

In Denmark, preparations are continuing for the commemoration of the author of *Wild Swans* and so many other enchanting tales. Particular attention is being given to the proposal that children from a number of countries should visit Denmark to honour Andersen and mix with Danish children. Moreover, the Danish Women's Federation has issued interesting postcards bearing illustrations made by Andersen himself with coloured paper cuttings; they are being widely distributed.

In Hungary, the Peace Council will sponsor a great children's festival with the reading of tales by Andersen, puppet plays and the playing of Scandinavian music on its programme. The organising committee is composed of representatives of the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education, the Children's Publishing House, the Puppet Theatre and other bodies.

Cervantes

In various Latin American countries preparations are going ahead for the events that will commemorate the great creator of *Don Quixote*.

In the Soviet Union a number of steps have already been taken. In January the Lenin Library in Moscow presented an exhibition on the life and work of Cervantes where there were more than a hundred editions of *Don Quixote* in the many languages of the Soviet Union and other countries on show. It also contained illustrations for the book signed by great Soviet and foreign artists. Similar exhibitions are being presented in the libraries of Leningrad, Kiev, Baku and other cities. The Society for the Diffusion of Scientific and Political Knowledge is preparing lectures in various parts of the country.

Professor Stein, the philologist, has given a talk on 'The Great Spanish Novelist Cervantes'. It is planned to hold other lectures and talks on *Don Quixote* and Spanish literature in clubs, schools, institutes and universities.

Montesquieu

The 200th anniversary of the death of the author of *L'Esprit des Lois* will be officially commemorated by U.N.E.S.C.O. in accordance with the decision of its Eighth General Conference in Montevideo. The proposal came from the Hungarian delegation.

On February 10, the anniversary day, the Montesquieu Academy of Bordeaux, the great sociologist's native town, held a memorial ceremony in Brede Castle. Preparations are being made to hold other events in France in the month of May. The Nagel publishing house in Paris announces the publication of the third and last volume of Montesquieu's collected works; it contains many hitherto unpublished texts, posthumous works and correspondence and is the official bicentenary edition.

In the Soviet Union a Montesquieu exhibition has already been inaugurated in Leningrad.

In Hungary, the Academy of Sciences is preparing a philosophical lecture and the national U.N.E.S.C.O. committee a sociological one. The Society for the popularisation of the natural and social sciences will organise in Budapest and other university towns a series of Montesquieu memorial evenings. The *Persian Letters* have been re-edited in a new translation.

Walt Whitman

In a number of countries it is proposed to include on the the programmes of ceremonies in honour of the author of *Leaves of Grass* the performance of some of the many pieces of music inspired by his poems. On this point we would recall that there exists a compilation of 294 of these compositions which was made by Mr. Henry S. Saunders in Canada. Such concerts would also include the famous cantata, *Dona Nobis Pacem*, composed in 1936 by the illustrious British composer Vaughan Williams on the theme of one of Whitman's poems, together with the *Sea Symphony* by the same composer.

Americans Speak Out for Cultural Exchanges

We give below two items of information from the United States, both relative to the demand for the development of cultural exchanges in that country.

Note by American Scientists

The Federation of American Scientists has informed many foreign scientific associations that it is studying the effects of the present visa policy on science. Their letter is addressed to:

1) People who wished to go to the United States for professional reasons but could not because they were refused visas or received them too late.

2) Persons who have received invitations to go to the United States in their professional capacity (e.g. to attend conferences or as a visiting lecturer) but have hesitated to ask for a visa because of the present regulations.

3) Visitors who, having arrived in the United States, had visa trouble.

4) Scientific conferences or congresses which could not be held in the United States because of the present visa policy.

The Federation of American Scientists would like to receive information on cases of this type which have occurred in the last two years and asks that the sender should indicate whether the information is to be regarded as confidential or not. All communications should be sent to the following address: The Federation of American Scientists, Committee on Visa Problems, P.O. Box 1191, Stanford, California, U.S.A.

University of California Considers Invitation to Soviet Students

At the University of California, Los Angeles, the U.C.L.A. *Bruin* reports that the Student Council is considering an invitation that would bring college newspaper editors from the Soviet Union to the U.S. during this year. Seven American college editors visited the Soviet Union early last year, but the Soviet students invited last summer were refused visas. Their American colleagues are making every effort to make the visit possible this time.

A statement by Martin Mc Reynolds, editor of the paper, notes: 'Anything we can do to relieve tension and establish a better relationship between the two nations is valuable.' And Joseph Adler, campus representative of the United States National Student Association, says that 'a free exchange of ideas between Russian and American students can bring about better understanding.'

In India, the All India Peace Council's Cultural Sub-Committee has decided to hold a great festival of dancing, drama and music to commemorate the 1,500th anniversary of the Ajanta frescoes. First of all there will be regional festivals which will culminate in the great all-India festival at the end of 1955 in which artists from all over India will take part.

It is also planned to present an exhibition of reproductions of the Ajanta paintings. In addition, the Indian Government Film Unit has made a film on 'India's Cave Temples' which is mainly devoted to the Ajanta frescoes.

Wide Cultural Movement in Japan:
'The Songs of Japan'

The whole country is singing

'We shall never allow the dropping of another atomic bomb'

We have pleasure in publishing an extract from an interesting article by Mr. Tokusaburo Dan, writer, member of the World Council of Peace. The cultural initiative in Japan described in this article will be a valuable example and an encouragement for friends of peace the world over.

The great movement called "The Songs of Japan", which is only six years old, underwent a magnificent development in 1954. From the factories, the villages and the schools arise songs extolling happiness, peace and independence. The voices of all these ordinary people sang in unison on the occasion of the third national concert of "The Songs of Japan" organisation which was held on November 27, 28 and 29, 1954. It was attended by more than 5,000 people of all professions and from all parts of Japan and there were more than 25,000 spectators. The first two evenings were held in a big hall which can hold 5,000 people and the last in a sports stadium with a seating capacity of 25,000. Before the concert started all the seats had been taken; even the corridors were blocked with people. A total of more than 35,000 people heard and saw the concerts.

Mrs. Akiko Seki, the founder of the powerful movement, 'Songs of Japan', the motto of which is 'Songs are forces for peace'.

'The first evening was devoted to choirs from eight regions of Japan; each was composed of from three to four hundred singers, both men and women. The second evening was given over to songs and dances of the Japanese countryside. On the last evening workers' and students' choirs took the stage.

'During the first two evenings the veterans of the "Central Choir", conducted by Mrs. Akiko Seki, sang the suite "Songs of Japan 1954" the principal theme of which is the song: "We shall never allow the dropping of another atomic bomb". On the last evening they sang the suite "Songs of Asia" with the collaboration of Chinese and Koreans residing in Japan. The theme of the suite is friendship and solidarity between the peoples of Asia. The audience listened to these songs with immense enthusiasm.

'At the end of the programme both singers and audience stood up and sang the favourite songs, "We shall never allow the dropping of another atomic bomb", "The mountains and rivers of the homeland", "For national independence", "Tokio-Peking", and others. After this moving piece of mass singing all went home with the joy of life and hope for the future in their hearts.'

Mr. Dan then goes on to say that this huge success is the result of six years of tireless work and devotion by Mrs. Seki and her pupils in the most difficult circumstances. In the beginning there were only 15 of them. After a year the number had risen to 300 and little musical groups had started round each one of them. During the time of the Korean war, when the Peace Movement was severely repressed, the choir's meetings were hindered by the authorities, but their promoters managed to overcome all obstacles by placing increasing reliance on the workers and the people. And so, through the gifts of ordinary people all over Japan, it was possible to construct a building for the 'Central Choir'.

The progress made was reflected in the great concert given before an audience of 3,000 at the end of 1952. For the first time a good number of representatives from the different regions sang in addition to the members of the 'Central Choir'. From that time on 'The Songs of Japan' developed on a great scale for, on going back home, the regional representatives did an enormous amount of work in organising powerful local movements round themselves. In the course of 1953 the results achieved were even more encouraging. A great number of singers, both men and women, went to Uchinada and Myogi to encourage the fishermen and peasants who were putting up a bitter struggle against the plans for military bases in the area. Through these demonstrations of solidarity 'The Songs of Japan' was able to become deeply rooted among the workers in the conditions favourable to the easing of international tension that followed on the armistice in Korea. Thus, regional concerts were organised in the main provinces of Japan. A great number of workers and peasants took part and helped to make the great national concert of 1953 a success.

The poster announcing the third national concert of 'The Songs of Japan'.

In 1954 "Songs of Japan" grew even more rapidly thanks mainly to the collaboration of the National Council of Trade Unions (S.O.H.Y.O.) which has a membership of 4,000,000. On the eve of May Day it launched the slogan: "We must have peace songs in every factory!" Workers' choirs were set up everywhere and regardless of political affiliation everyone came to sing arm in arm.

The horror of the hydrogen bomb, and the tests which brought new sufferings to the Japanese people, were also factors which brought more and more people into "The Songs of Japan". A song of anger and grief, "We shall never allow the dropping of another atomic bomb", rapidly spread throughout the country. In factory and on farm this song is heard rising up at any time, an expression of the people's hatred of war and their desire for peace.

We give below an English translation.

Our native town has turned to ashes;
On the burnt soil, where lay the bones of our beloved,
White flowers are now in bloom.
O! we shall not allow another atomic bomb!
We shall not allow it, a third time!
No! not on our town!

The sea is rough around our native place;
With dreary rain, there are no more days of joy,
And, on the boats, not a sign of man.
O! we will not allow another atomic bomb!
We shall not allow it, a third time!
No! not on our sea!

The sky is heavy over our native town;
Black clouds cover the Earth day after day,
And in the sunshine we rejoice no more.
O! we shall not allow another atomic bomb!
We shall not allow it, a third time!
No! not in our sky!

All the wealth and joy,
The fruits of our brethren's toil unceasing,
Have all now crumbled to naught.
O! we shall not allow another atomic bomb!
We shall not allow it, a third time!
No! not on our Earth!

GREAT BRITAIN:

National Deputations Day

National Deputations Day in Britain, which brought more than 10,000 people to the House of Commons on January 25 to demand "No Arms for Germany", was the biggest demonstration of its kind for many years. How was it organised?

The appeal for a mass lobbying of Members of Parliament was made by the British Peace Committee in the middle of December. This appeal was addressed not only to peace committees but also to all trade union, co-operative, political, religious and other organisations.

Several Weeks' Preparation

The campaign leading up to the day itself was very carefully prepared and detailed proposals were sent out by the British Peace Committee to local peace committees.

In the five weeks that followed, every conceivable means was used to ensure the widest publicity and the largest possible delegations. The British Peace Committee sent 8,000 letters to other organisations inviting them to take part. All over the country there were poster parades; distribution of leaflets (150,000 issued by the British Peace Committee itself as well as many produced locally); conferences in certain areas, sometimes called by the peace committees, sometimes by district committees of trade unions. Special materials were prepared by other organisations — regional peace committees, youth, workers in different industries. The London busmen issued their own leaflet in the form of an appeal to 'meet us outside the House of Commons', signed by 40 busmen and women. The British-Soviet Friendship Society produced a postcard which on one side urged people to lobby their M.P.s; on the other was a space to write the result of the interview, the postcard to be handed in after the lobbying.

Plan of Campaign

There was a special meeting of the General Council of the British Peace Committee on January 8—9 to which representatives of local peace committees and other organisations were invited. This meeting planned the campaign for the final two weeks and issued a statement which was widely distributed and was reproduced in a special issue of the *B.P.C. Newsletter* just before the National day. This statement said:

'Grave decisions are being taken today which, if not reversed, may drag this country faster than many realise towards World War III... At this critical moment in the life of our country and of the world, we call on people of all organisations and in every walk of life, to insist on the settlement of disputes by negotiation, before it is too late... By resolutions, deputations, demonstrations, insist that your M.P. and all authorities work to stop the rearmament of Germany. Demand that the government should resume Four-Power Talks at once to reach agreement on a peaceful settlement for Germany. Act now to save Britain and the world from the catastrophe of atomic war.'

Letters to M.P.s

As the weeks went by, the local peace committees succeeded in getting trade union branches, co-operative organisations, churches and others to elect official delegates. In Scotland, in Yorkshire, in Wales, coaches were booked and money for rail fares was raised. Many people wrote to their M.P.s to say that they were coming and this resulted in a number of M.P.s booking committee rooms in the House of Commons to receive their constituents. One M.P. arranged for a small room, and had to change to a bigger one when he found that 101 people had arrived to see him.

Two weeks beforehand, the British Peace Committee sent a letter to all peace committees giving details of the arrangements for the day itself. An advice centre was open during the afternoon and evening, complete with refreshments and with a creche for children. Posters were available with such slogans as 'German Rearmament threatens Britain', 'Tell your M.P. — No German Army', 'Start Four Power Talks'.

Subsequent Activities

Such was the campaign which led to the magnificent demonstration on January 25 which can have left the Members of Parliament in no doubt as to the opposition of the mass of the British people to the rearmament of Germany.

The National Deputations Day has been followed by further actions proposed by the Peace Committee:

1) All organisations and individuals who oppose German rearmament were asked to make February 8 Telegram and Telephone Day, on which all would either telegraph or telephone to their M.P. demanding opposition to the Paris agreements.

2) Deputations in ever increasing numbers to M.P.s in their constituencies.

3) Organisation of 5,000 public meetings.

4) Local and regional conferences on the widest basis throughout the country.

In addition, March 5 and 6 are to be national days of poster parades in every city and town in Great Britain. Carrying posters addressed directly to their M.P.s, these parades will visit the houses of the M.P.s to call on them to oppose German rearmament and to act against atomic war preparations.

Shadows over Austria

A Documentary Film made by the Austrian Peace Council

These stills of the film "Shadows over Austria" show:
— an ex-s ldiers' meeting at Gmunden;
— a young peoples' demonstration against ex-soldiers' rallies in Vienna.
— a women's demonstration in Bad Ischl.

The Austrian Peace Council has recently made a short documentary film which shows in all clearness how Austria is already threatened by German rearmament.

The film opens with shots of the beautiful Austrian countryside. We then see the people of Austria, the adults at work, the children playing. We see them wearing their national costumes and performing their national dances, taking part in sport and tasting new wine. The wounds of war appear to be healed.

But behind this peaceful picture a new war is being prepared. The film shows war literature in the libraries, military installations on Austrian soil and above all the re-emergence of militarist activities. Military ceremonies at the war memorials and rallies of ex-soldiers are held including not only Austrians sporting their war decorations awarded by Hitler, but also undesirable individuals from West Germany, such as recently freed war criminals.

The film constrasts scenes of the 1930's with topical scenes, and thus throws into vivid relief the analogy between the situation which led up to the Anschluss and the situation today. But today there is a difference in that the Austrian people remember only too well the horrors of the war, which the film also conjures up with a few shots, and they are everywhere starting to resist the preparations for a new war. We are heartened to see the work of the Austrian defenders of peace, meeting together at large and small gatherings, discussing in the streets and on the doorsteps, talking with their neighbours, continually explaining the situation and initiating activities. Big demonstrations including people of all sections of the population show how much they are once again keenly concerned with the well-being of their country. The film ends with an appeal to encourage and actively support these efforts to prevent catastrophe.

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Eigentümer, Herausgeber und Verleger: Roland Vuillaume, Redakteur des Informationsdienstes des Sekretariats des Weltfriedensrates, Wien IV, Tllgnerstraße 4/6. — Verantwortlicher Redakteur: Max Ungar, Wien XXII, Kraygasse 48. — Druck Globus II, Wien VI, Gumpendorferstraße 40—44.

[World Peace Council]

STATEMENT OF THE BUREAU OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

In every country in the world, the Appeal of the World Council of Peace in favour of the destruction of atomic weapons and the stopping of their manufacture is rousing the conscience of all who are horrified at the prospect of a war of extermination. It meets the hopes of those who confidently believe that the peoples can prevent atomic slaughter.

We greet the many organisations and prominent personalities, indeed all, who, in various ways, are protesting against the preparation of atomic war.

The danger of atomic war has become more concrete. Statesmen are freely threatening to use thermonuclear weapons. Governments which as yet do not possess them have decided to make them or are considering their manufacture. Attempts are being made to justify employment of these frightful weapons or to present their existence as a guarantee of peace, whereas in fact they increase the danger of aggression and can bring mankind only death and destruction.

The signature campaign is the means whereby the universal detestation of atomic weapons can so express itself as to induce all governments possessing them to agree to their abolition under strict control, an agreement which would constitute an important step toward general disarmament.

The peoples can make their voices heard so loud that no government will dare to face their disapproval.

Vienna, March 13,1955

27-16-9

Eigentümer, Herausgeber und Verleger:Roland Vuillaume,Redakteur des Informationsdienstes des Sekretariats des Weltfriedensrates,Wien IV,Tilgnerstrasse 4/6 - Verantwortlicher Redakteur: Max Unger, Wien XXII, Kraygasse 48.

[World Peace Council]

PRESS BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE INFORMATION SERVICE
OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

Estate-Haus, Möllwaldplatz 5, Wien IV

Special Issue March 14, 1955

The Bureau of the World Council of Peace met in Vienna from March 11-14. The subjects discussed were the development of the world campaign against the preparations for atomic war and the World Assembly for Peace which will be held in Helsinki from May 22 to 29, 1955.

This press bulletin contains the texts adopted by the Bureau.

FOR A WORLD ASSEMBLY FOR PEACE

The open threat of an atomic war is from now on suspended over every country, every home, every man, woman and child.

Instead of atomic energy being made to serve mankind, ghastly weapons are being piled up. Instead of disarmament, fresh military blocs are being put together. Instead of negotiation and agreement, there are threats and hate-propaganda.

But threats and force are the road to war, not to peace.

The rearmament of Germany, the Taiwan (Formosa) situation, interference with the independence of peoples, are multiplying discord and anxiety. If mankind should go further along this path, there will be no safety anywhere.

Mankind will not allow this to go on. Its conscience is revolted by the idea of atomic slaughter.

The abolition of nuclear weapons, general disarmament, the security of all, respect for the sovereignty and rights of every nation, these must be pursued by the peoples with the energy needed where life itself is at stake.

It is in this spirit and with these aims that the World Council of Peace has invited supporters of peace from every country to come together in Helsinki on May 22, 1955 in a World Assembly, there to discuss freely questions of the action urgent to preserve peace.

Vienna, March 13, 1955

27-16-00